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nis spinosa; "Ginger Grass" for *Andropogon schoenanthus*; "Vermont" or "Canada Snakeroot" for *Asarum Canadense*, "Beerlap" for *Lycopodium* sp.

Struggle for Life in the Guianian Forest—The. Jas. Rodway. (Gard. Chron. x. 578, 579; 612, 613).

Mostly concerned with the orchid flora of the region.

The Action of Bacteria on the Rapid Souring of Milk during Thunder Storms. A. L. Treadwell. (Am. Nat. xxv. 1010-1012).

From experiments with milk and electrical discharges the author finds a slight hastening in the time of souring. If the milk is first sterilized, however, no souring is obtained. The conclusion is reached that the souring is not due to oxidation but to the more rapid growth of bacteria under the influence of the free oxygen or ozone generated by the electrical discharges. The small amount of ozone generated during a thunder storm is not considered sufficient to have any appreciable oxidizing effect either, and if rapid souring is produced it is to be attributed to the more rapid growth of bacteria in the sultry atmosphere.

The Specific Name of the Texan Cercis. E. L. Greene. (Gard. and For. iv. 562, 563).

Tillandsia argentea. (Gard. xl. 524, illustrated).

Water Garden—A Typical. (Gard. xl. 533, 534, illustrated).

Contains a picture of a nook in the garden of Mr. John Gerard at Elizabeth, N. J.

Proceedings of the Club.

MEETING OF DECEMBER 8TH, 1891.

The President in the chair and forty-two persons present.

The subject of the evening, "The Flora of the Higher Catskills," was illustrated by lantern slides, made and shown by Mr. Van Brunt, further supplemented by herbarium specimens.

Miss Anna Murray Vail followed with a paper on the plants collected by her in the region of Onteora during the summer just passed, and Miss Steele gave a short account of the flora in the neighborhood of Slide Mountain, illustrated by specimens of the rarer ferns and mosses.

Dr. Rusby announced that the prize of fifteen dollars offered

last spring for the best set of plants collected within one hundred miles of New York during the summer, had been awarded to Miss Vail.

Dr. Britton remarked upon the *Polemonium* which Mr. Van Brunt and Dr. Rusby had found in the Catskills, and hitherto supposed to be the *Polemonium cæruleum* of Europe. After comparison of complete plants from both countries, he has decided that the North American one must rank as a new species, and gives it the name of *Polemonium Van Bruntiae*, in honor of Mrs. Van Brunt. The East American plant differs from the European one, especially in having horizontal root stocks and exserted stamens.

The species has been reported from Herkimer, Delaware, Schoharie, Ulster, Chenango and Tioga Counties, in New York State.

MEETING OF DECEMBER 30TH, 1891.

Mr. Hogg in the chair and twenty-three persons present.

Miss Delia W. Marble and Mr. Robert Demcker were elected active members.

The paper of the evening, "Friendly Bacteria," was then given by Prof. Herbert W. Conn, of the Wesleyan University.

ANNUAL MEETING, JAN. 12, 1892.

The President in the Chair and twenty-three persons present.

Reports of officers for the past year were read and accepted.

The following officers were elected for the year 1892: President, Hon. Addison Brown; Treasurer, Henry Ogden; Recording Secretary, Maria O. Steele; Corresponding Secretary, E. P. Bicknell; Librarian, Maturin L. Delafield, Jr.; Curator, Josephine E. Rogers; Editor, N. L. Britton; Associate Editors, Emily L. Gregory, Anna M. Vail, C. Henry Kain, Henry H. Rusby, Arthur Hollick.

The election of Vice-President was deferred until the first February meeting.

The announced paper of the evening was read by Mr. John K. Small on "The Flora of Western North Carolina and contiguous territory," copiously illustrated by specimens.